[Translation]

Control over Private Hospitals

149. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are helpless before the lobby of private hospitals as no rates for operation saline, beds, various tests, X-ray etc. have been fixed in these hospitals, and everything is kept confidential till the time of discharge of the patient and the charges are decided according to the condition of the patient;

(b) if so, whether any steps are being taken by the Union Government for regulating the activities of private hospitals; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) 'Health' being a State subject, it is for respective State Governments to regulate functioning of private hospitals. Some of the State Governments including Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi do have their own law/rules including land use laws for regulating private medical establishments. Under Rule 3 of the Delhi Nursing Home Act, 1953, Nursing Homes in Delhi are required to display their schedule of charges at the Reception.

Supply of Spurious Medicines in CGHS Dispensaries

150. SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the authority of whose direction CGHS dispensaries are purchasing the spurious and ineffective medicines instead of the medicines of the famous and genuine medicine producing companies;

(b) whether the Government would ensure that only genuine medicines of famous and established companies be disbursed by the dispensaries;

(c) if so, the time by which such arrangement is likely to be made and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether these genuine medicines of famous companies would be made available through local purchase to the Central Government employees;

(e) if so, the time by which this provision is likely to be made effective and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the manner in which the Government propose to compensate the people occuring physical losses and loss of life due to consumption of spurious medicines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (f) CGHS procures all medicines listed in the formulary from the Govt. Medical Stores Depot (GMSD), with a certificate that they are pre-tested and of standard quality. The medicines in the CGHS formulary are included in the formulary on the recommendation of a Committee consisting of Specialists of different disciplines and reviewed from time to time. In case of any specific medicine prescribed by the Specialist not being available, the same is purchased through local chemist against the prescription of the individual for supply to the beneficiary.

[English]

Return of Migrants

151. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been evolved for the return of migrants of Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the exgratia relief being paid to migrants per month and the expenditure being incurred on various accounts during each of the last three years and also during the current year;

(e) whether the Government are also aware that exgratia relief drawn for migrants is not being given to all migrants; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) to (c) With the taking over of a popular Government, after successful conduct of Assembly Elections in the State, in October 1996, the State Government has been preparing an action plan for return of Kashmiri migrants to their native places. The State Government have informed that the process is likely to take some time as the problem has to be tackled on a politico-economic basis. The State Government has constituted an apex level Committee under the Chairmanship of Revenue, Relief and Rehabilitation Minister and a Sub-Committee headed by the Financial Commissioner (Planning & Development), to draw up an action plan.

(d) Various State Governments/UTs provide relief to migrants residing there as per norms/rules in vogue and as per their resources. As per available information, the expenditure on relief incurred by various States/UTs in three years from 1993-94 to 1995-96 is as follows:-

Year	Amount spent in Lakhs
1993-94	3053-37
1994-95	3941.27
1995-96	3554.23

(e) and (f) No such instance have come to notice where exgratia relief has been drawn but not paid to migrants.

Declaration of Backward Area

152. COL. (RETD) SONARAM CHOUDHARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the districts and area of Rajasthan declared backward during last three years;

(b) reasons for not declaring areas as backward where majority of the people live below poverty line;

(c) whether Barmer and Jaisalmer district of Western Rajasthan also fulfil all the conditions for declaring them as backward area;

(d) if so, whether the Government intends to declare Barmer and Jaisalmer districts as backward areas; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOOR): (a) to (e) The Finance Act, 1994-95 provides for 100% tax holiday for initial five years in case of industrial undertakings located in notified industrially backward districts, if the undertakings begins to manufacture or produce articles or things or to operate its cold storage plant or plants from 1.10.1994 to 31.3.1999. This tax holiday is provided under Section 80-IA of the Income-tax Act, 1961. Two study groups were constituted in the Ministry of Finance for identification of industrially backward districts for the purposes of granting 100% tax holiday under section 80-IA of the Income-tax Act. These study groups submitted their reports in 1994 and 1996 respectively. The reports of these groups are under consideration of the Government for notifying the industrially backward districts of the country.

Scholarship to Foreign Students

153. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have worked out a comprehensive plan to provide educational facilities to expand, strength and re-structure the present scheme for providing opportunities and scholarships to foreign students from neighbouring/developing countries as part of the strategy of strengthening friendly relationship through ICCR;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the plan and estimate of funds earmarked for the implementation of the project provided to ICCR for the scheme;

(d) whether performance under the scheme has been reviewed objectively; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action plan for the year 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMALA SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The ICCR offers around one thousand scholarships for foreign students to study in India broadly under three categories: (i) General Cultural, (ii) Cultural Exchange Programmes, and (iii) Special Schemes for selected neighbouring countries. In an effort to provide greater opportunity to students from neighbouring countries since 1996-97, 25 more scholarships are being offered to Nepalese students under the Silver Jubilee Scholarship Scheme.

(c) A total expenditure of Rs. 8.5 crores has been spent on these scholarship schemes. The details are as follows:

International Students Division-Welfare Activities for Foreign Students

(Figures in Lakhs of Rupees)

	I. **Scholarship Schemes**	**1996-97**
1.	General Cultural Scholarship Scheme	150.00
2.	Commonwealth	40.00
3.	Cultural Exchange Programme	250.00
4.	Reciprocal	1.00
5.	Srilankan Nationals	54.00
6.	Mauritius	45.00
7.	Bangladesh	130.00
8.	ICCR Scholarship	20.00
Total	Scholarship Schemes	690.00
II.	Welfare Activities for International students	35.00
III.	Scholarships under Aid-Nepal & Silver Jubilee Schemes	50.00
IV.	Scholarship under TCS of Colombo Plan Scheme	45.00

(d) and (e) There are several ongoing & periodical reviews under the various Committees of the ICCR including Plan of Action & Finance Committee, Governing Body & Office Bearer's Committee headed by the Vice-President of India who is ex-officio President of ICCR. Separately the Ministry of External Affairs reviews the performance of ICCR both as an annual status review exercise & on a long term in policy planning perspective.